

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Title on page 1, line 3, as follows:

FIBER OPTIC TEMPERATURE MONITORING METHOD

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 1, line 6 as follows:

--This application claims priority to and is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/096,158 filed March 11, 2002, which claims priority to German Application No. DE 10111640.3 filed March 10, 2001. The entire content of each of these applications is incorporated herein by reference.--

Please amend paragraph 32 starting on page 11 as follows:

--In each case, the optical reflection signal is received by the optical receiver 7, which in turn provides a corresponding electrical signal to the computer 1 for evaluation. The computer evaluates both the amplitude of the received reflection signal, as well as the time between the sending or emitting of the respective laser pulse by the laser emitter 8 and the reception of the reflected signal by the optical receiver 7. The computer 1 may further evaluate the wave form, such as the pulse width of the reflection signal pulses. These measured or evaluated signal values are then compared by the computer 1 with prescribed comparison signals or thresholds that are stored in or provided to the computer 1, whereby the computer 1 then determines the ~~des~~sired physical values such as the temperature increase, i.e. the elevated temperature level, from the signal amplitude, and the spatial location of the overheating condition along the fiber optic cable of the respective sensor 3, from the reflection transit time of the associated reflection pulse.--